

A quarterly news bulletin to provide project managers and district environmental staff with current permit requirements, training opportunities and other environmental information.

STORMWATER PERMIT

As the winter season quickly approaches, here are a few things to keep in mind regarding erosion control and the Construction Stormwater Permit.

Winter Preparation – Stabilizing a construction site as much as possible now will help you avoid issues in the spring when the ground thaws out and things get too sloppy to install the necessary erosion and sediment control measures. Cover cropping and mulching may be a reasonable option to prepare the site for next spring.

Stormwater Inspection Frequency – During winter months, inspection frequency may be reduced to at least once every month if the site is covered with snow, ice, or the ground is frozen. Keep in mind that the reduced inspection frequency does not relieve us of maintenance responsibilities during this period. Be sure to note the particular reason for reduced inspections on each report for documentation down the road.

Pre-Construction Submittals – In order to stay in compliance with NDOR Specifications and Stormwater Permit requirements, the Contractor must provide the following information to be included in the Environmental Commitment Document:

- ❖ **Temporary Erosion Control Plan** – This plan should clearly communicate how the contractor will address initial erosion and sediment control prior to any earth moving activities. As construction progresses, the Temporary Erosion Control Plan should always match what's being installed on the ground. A checklist is provided in the Environmental Commitment Document to help ensure that all required information is being included on this plan.
- ❖ **Spill Prevention and Control Plan** – Spill Prevention and Control Plans should clearly state measures to stop the source of a spill, contain the spill, clean up the spill, dispose of contaminated materials, and train personnel to prevent and control future spills --EPA. It also highly recommended that contractors maintain a spill kit on site to clean up minor spills that may occur (See spill kit section below for more information).
- ❖ Name and telephone number of the Contractor's representative responsible for the Environmental Commitments.
- ❖ **Construction Schedule/Critical Path** – Having a specified work schedule assists with the coordination and timing of erosion and sediment control measures needed to control runoff.

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UPCOMING TRAINING

NDOR Certified Erosion and Sediment Control for Inspectors Course:

- Jan 6, 2010 -- Kearney, Ramada Inn
- Jan 7, 2010 -- Mahoney State Park

We are also looking at holding a couple of the inspector courses in March. One of them will most likely be around the Columbus/Norfolk area.

Contact Ron Poe at (402) 479-4499 or Dennis Smith with LTAP at (402) 472-0976 for more information.

Course information is also available on the LTAP website at:

http://www.ne-ltap.unl.edu/erosion_control.html

SPILL KITS

The Construction Stormwater General Permit requires a Spill Prevention Plan, as a part of the SWPPP. This plan should include how a spill will be prevented, controlled and cleaned up. In order to implement the plan effectively, the correct supplies (spill kit) would need to be on hand to quickly and safely address the spill. A question everyone asks is what types of materials should be included in the kit?

During our Erosion and Sediment Control Inspector Classes we recommend having some very common supplies on hand such as *Hi-Dri* floor absorbent or cat litter, rubber gloves, safety goggles, broom and dust pan etc. But there are also many manufactured spill kits on the market today that a contractor can purchase and keep on site. One such kit is being utilized at NDOR Maintenance Yards and it is a good example of what they look like and how they can be used.

Below is a picture of one of these kits with recommendations on using some of the included supplies.



1. **Sorbent Sock** can be used for oil sheen/residue clean-up in secondary containments (fuel, diesel, tank racks, and used oil) and for small spill containment.

2. **Oil Sorbent Roll** in the kit can be torn along perforations (like paper towels) to the size you need and used under leaky hydraulic lines/cylinders, connections (until they can be fixed) on trucks, plows, mowers, chain saws, compressors, etc.

3. **Oil Skimmer** can be used to remove oil on water.

These kits also contain items such as gloves, trash bags and safety goggles. The absorbent capacity is approximately 22 gallons.

For additional information on what is contained in the spill kits and how the materials are used contact Belinda Fowler, Operations Division, (402) 479-4656 or Steve Biltoft, Operations Division, (402) 479-4320.